

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Tom Carlson and Members of City Council

RE: **Recommended Charge and Membership for Police-Fire Pension Fund Citizen's Task Force**

DATE: March 31, 2009

The purpose of this memo is to provide my recommendations of (a) a charge for and (b) membership of the Police-Fire Pension Fund Citizen's Task Force.

The enclosed charge is a draft for Council's review and comment.

My recommendations for membership are made based upon my review of the 54 applications the City received between February 26th and March 9th when applications were accepted for this purpose. I also took into account the input received from various community leaders whose input I solicited. My goal was to select a balanced membership, so while the recommendations were useful, I also took into account the need for diverse perspectives. However, some of my recommendations run counter to the recommendations received in order to promote a balanced membership. I'm operating under the belief that if no single person is completely satisfied with the recommended membership mix, it's probably sufficiently diverse and balanced.

[Note: Please be aware that one applicant contacted the City after the application deadline and indicated he had submitted an application for the task force prior to the deadline, but the City did not have a record of his application. City staff was able to track his attempted submission which was prior to the deadline, so it was accepted after the initial group.]

As you know from my memo dated March 10 that suggested a process, I recommend a task force membership of 12-14 individuals. Membership should include individuals who are open-minded and can consider multiple possible approaches to addressing the City's police-fire pension shortfall.

The following is my recommended membership for the task force. Enclosed are the applications received so you can more thoroughly review the qualifications of each applicant – those I am recommending for service and those the current or new Council may want to consider adding. Council may revise this membership in any way desired by adding or removing members.

Hopefully, the rationale I provide below (a very brief summary of what I believe are some of their most pertinent qualifications or quotes from applications) will help provide insights into why I am recommending this mix of individuals. While every Council member may not fully agree with every recommendation, hopefully all will recognize the value of having a balanced mix of perspectives on the task force. My recommendations are provided in alphabetical order.

Brian Allen

- Owner and CEO of Pension Consulting, Inc. located in downtown Springfield
- A career financial professional, specializing in corporate pension plans
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? No
- [Note: Brian was nominated by one of his employees, but was contacted and is willing to serve if selected.]

Mary Beth Daniels

- Owner, Hunter Chase & Associates Concrete Construction
- “I am a huge supporter of our great City and would like to see a resolution that is acceptable to everyone.”
- [Note: Hunter Chase has done, and continues to do, construction work for the City – all was competitively bid.]
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? No

Jerry Harmison

- Attorney
- Former member of Springfield Board of Education (including serving as president)
- Currently serve as Vice President of Public Affairs for the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce
- Significant civic involvement
- [Note: The City has a contract with a third-party administrator for worker’s compensation claims and administration. The Harmison and Pearman law firm does work for that third-party administrator. I do not consider this a conflict of interest.]
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? Yes

Carl Herd

- Retired teacher
- Frequent speaker at City Council meetings
- Vocal critic of City’s previous proposal
- Stated in his application, “For the past year I have been studying the Fire and Police Pension Fund and its problem” and is interested in seeking a win-win situation.
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? Yes

Kenneth Homan

- Current member of the Police-Fire Pension Board
- Investment advisor and portfolio manager – tremendous credibility with Pension Board members and others in the community
- [Note: In my March 10 memo outlining a recommended process and task force membership criteria, I recommend a member of the Police-Fire Pension Board be assigned as a non-voting member of the task force to serve as a liaison between the two groups. During the March 17 Council lunch meeting, it was apparent a majority of Council members desire to have Ken Homan on the task force as a full, voting member. I have no objection; Ken would be a tremendous asset to the task force.]
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? Yes

James Jeffries

- Attorney
- Member of The Network (young professionals organization)
- Member of the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce's Local Issues Public Policy Task Force
- Significant civic involvement
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? Yes

Robert L. Jones

- Retired lawyer, judge, and arbitrator
- "This issue is one of the most important and demanding – seemingly almost intractable – issues in our community. Yet, it has to be solved. I would like to help."
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? Yes

Peggy Kubicek

- Retired financial advisor, retired teacher (K-12 and university)
- Served on the County Employees' Retirement Fund Board of Directors
- Significant civic involvement
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? Yes

Carol Mihalevich

- Vice President, Bank of Missouri
- Significant civic involvement
- "I can be a mediator to narrow differences to reach a workable solution. My goal would be to be a positive force that would come prepared, be open to listening and sharing of ideas and then make a decision based on that feedback and then be firm in my chosen position."
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? Yes

Matt Morrow

- CEO, Home Builders Association of Greater Springfield
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? Yes

Charles Munsey

- Health benefits consultant
- Actuarial experience
- Significant civic involvement
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? Yes

Jeff Rice

- Financial advisor
- 20 years experience working with retirement plans of various types
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? Yes

Craig Wagoner

- Real estate investments; CPA
- Current chairman of Downtown Community Improvement District Board
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? Yes

Lloyd Young

- Retired professor
- Chair of the Good Community Committee
- Significant civic involvement
- Lives in the Springfield city limits? Yes

Two of my recommended task force members live outside the city limits, but operate businesses within the city. Three (21%) of my 14 recommended members are female. Eleven (20%) of the 54 applications received by the deadline were submitted by female applicants. Thus, I feel my recommendations are representative of the total pool.

I want to thank everyone who submitted their name for consideration to serve on this very important task force. Selecting recommended members from this pool of applicants was difficult because of all of the good choices.

Please contact me if you have any questions about my recommendations.

Sincerely,

Greg Burris
City Manager

Enclosures

- Police-Fire Pension Fund Citizen's Task Force – Task Force Charge (DRAFT – 3/31/09)
- Applications Received by Deadline

cc: Leadership Team

update memo to Council 3-31-09